



HOUSE COMMITTEE *on* APPROPRIATIONS

CHAIR ROSA DELAURO

Prioritizing Mental Health

Provisions in the Fiscal Year 2022 Consolidated Appropriations Act to Support Mental Health Programs

Democrats in Congress secured transformative federal investments in the 2022 federal spending package to help working families with the cost of living, create American jobs, and support the vulnerable who work hard. The American economy has catered to big corporations and left the middle class and working families behind for far too long.

Now we are tackling some of our nation's biggest challenges, including increasing investments in mental health programs and resources.

Overall, the 2022 spending bill provides more than \$23.3 billion to bolster mental health programs and services. Below you will find a division-by-division summary of the provisions on this included in this historic legislation.

Division A: Agriculture-Rural Development- FDA

The fiscal year 2022 federal spending package provides:

- \$10 million for the Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network which supports mental health and stress assistance programs for farmers, ranchers, and others engaged in agriculture-related occupations.
- \$60 million for Distance Learning and Telemedicine grants which help link medical service providers in one area to patients in another. This is especially important for rural communities with unique challenges due to their remoteness and low population density.
- \$3.45 billion in Community Facilities loans and \$40 million in grants, part of which may be used for the construction, expansion, or equipping of rural mental health facilities.

Division B: Commerce-Justice-Science

The bill also includes:

- \$7.5 million for Disabilities Program grants under the Office on Violence Against Women, an increase of \$1 million above FY 2021.

- \$10 million for grants for Officer Training for Responding to People with Mental Illness or Disabilities, an increase of \$2.5 million above FY 2021.
- \$40 million for grants under the Mentally Ill Offender Act, within the Anti-Opioid Initiative, an increase of \$5 million above FY 2021.
- \$8 million for grants under the Law Enforcement Mental Health and Wellness Act within Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring grants.

Division C: Defense

The bill provides \$1.4 billion, as requested, for clinical mental health programs and initiatives focused on evaluating, treating, and following up with servicemembers and other Department of Defense beneficiaries suffering from a variety of mental health issues.

Additionally, the bill includes:

- \$175 million above the request for the peer-reviewed traumatic brain injury and psychological health research program.
- \$4 million above the request for the peer-reviewed alcohol and substance use disorders research program.

Division F: Homeland Security

U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP)

The bill provides \$23 million for onsite mental health clinicians and resiliency efforts for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel.

Division G: Interior-Environment

Indian Health Service

The bill provides \$122 million for mental health services to Native Americans.

Division H: Labor-HHS-Education

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA): The federal funding bill funds mental health programs in SAMHSA at \$2.1 billion, an increase of \$289 million above the FY 2021 enacted level. SAMHSA funding includes:

- **Mental Health:** \$2.1 billion, an increase of \$289 million over the FY 2021 enacted level, including an \$100 million increase to the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG), making investments across the behavioral health continuum to support prevention, screening, treatment, and other services; \$315 million for Certified Community Behavioral Health,

a \$65 million increase above the FY 2021 enacted level; \$52.8 million for Primary and Behavioral Health Care Integration; and \$30.6 million for Homelessness Prevention Programs, as well as:

- **Mental health resources for children and youth:** \$120 million for Project AWARE, an increase of \$13 million above the FY 2021 enacted level; \$81.8 million for the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative, an increase of \$10 million above the FY 2021 enacted level; \$29 million for the Healthy Transitions Program; \$23.6 million for Project LAUNCH and \$10 million for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health, an increase of \$2 million above the FY 2021 enacted level.
- **Suicide prevention:** \$102 million for the Suicide Lifeline, an increase of \$78 million above the FY 2021 enacted level to support the implementation of the Lifeline's new 988 number; \$5 million to create a new Behavioral Health Crisis and 988 Coordinating Office; and \$39 million for Garrett Lee Smith Youth Suicide Prevention grants, an increase of \$2.3 million above the FY 2021 enacted level.
- **Mental Health Crisis Systems Set-aside Response Partnership Pilot Program:** a new 5 percent set-aside within the Mental Health Block Grant specifically for mental health crisis systems and \$10 million to create this new pilot program to help communities create mobile behavioral health crisis response teams.

Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA): The bill includes \$8.9 billion for HRSA, an increase of \$1.4 billion above the 2021 enacted level. The amount includes:

- **Maternal mental health resources:** \$4 million for the Maternal Mental Health Hotline, an increase of \$1 million above the FY 2021 enacted level and \$6.5 million for Screening and Treatment for Maternal Depression and Related Disorders, an increase of \$1.5 million above the FY 2021 enacted level.
- **Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training:** \$124 million, an increase of \$11 million above the FY2021 enacted level – this includes no less than \$14 million for peer support specialists training and \$31.7 million for the Mental and Substance Use Disorder Workforce Training Demonstration to support grants to expand the number of nurse practitioners, physician assistants, health service psychologists, and social workers trained to provide mental and substance use disorder services in underserved community-based settings.
- **Mental and Behavioral Health:** \$39 million, an increase of \$1 million above the FY2021 enacted level, which includes \$20 million for Graduate Psychology Education.

National Institutes of Health (NIH) – National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH): The funding bill includes \$2.2 billion for NIMH, an increase of \$113 million over the FY 2021 enacted level, for biomedical and behavioral research on the causes, prevention, and treatment of mental health disorders.

Department of Education: This bill also includes \$111 million within School Safety National Activities for Mental Health Services Professional Demonstration Grants and School-Based Mental Health Services Grants, an increase of \$90 million over the FY 2021 enacted level, to help Local Educational Agencies directly increase the number of mental health and child development experts in schools.

Division I: Legislative Branch

The funding bill includes:

- \$1.8 million for the House Center for Well-Being, creating capabilities to identify and launch new health and well-being resources and services mindfully and strategically. Specifically, this funding assisted in efforts to expand the House Center for Well-Being's outreach efforts in the aftermath of the January 6th, 2021, attacks.
- \$777,000 for the Office of Employee Assistance, which will support additional programming as the utilization of OEA services has in the last two years. This funding additionally allowed for increased crisis management services for the House community to promote and support organizational well-being.
- A total of \$400,873 to fund two wellness personnel. This funding built upon the supplemental funding for wellness programming provided in the aftermath of the attacks of January 6th, 2021.

Division J: Military Construction & Veterans Affairs

This bill supports care for our veterans with investments in VA health care, including targeted funding to advance women's health, mental health, and homelessness assistance. Specifically, the legislation includes \$97.5 billion for Veterans Medical Care, an increase of \$7.5 billion above the 2021 enacted level. This will provide care for 7.1 million patients expected to be treated by VA in FY 2022. This amount includes:

- \$13.2 billion for Mental Healthcare, an increase of \$2.9 billion above the 2021 enacted level, including \$598 million for suicide prevention outreach. This will support the nearly 2 million Veterans who receive mental health services in a VA specialty mental health setting, as well as support suicide prevention services like the Veterans Crisis Line, which saw an increase in demand by over 59 percent in the last year.
- \$84 million for Whole Health Initiatives, an increase of \$10 million above the 2021 enacted level and \$10 million above the President's budget request. This will enable VA to build upon the success of this program that focuses on Veterans' overall health and well-being, which has already reached 346,629 Veterans, or 7.41 percent of active VA users.
- \$882 million for Medical and Prosthetic Research, which includes \$121.6 million specifically for research into mental illness, including identifying more effective suicide prevention efforts and developing effective psychotherapies for Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

Division K: State and Foreign Operations

The State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs (SFOPS) portion of the fiscal year 2022 spending bill encourages the integration of mental health services and psychosocial support across global health and humanitarian programming, especially for children recovering from trauma.